





**Application No:** 

GB0516430.6

Examiner:

Dr Lyndon Ellis

Claims searched:

1-9

Date of search:

7 November 2005

# Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Relevant to claims	Identity of document and passage or figure of particular relevance
X,E	1-9	GB 2410518 A (Watson) Whole document, noting claims 28-32

Categories:

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	Ε.	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

## Field of Search:

Search of GB, EP, WO & US patent documents classified in the following areas of the UKCX:

E1F

Worldwide search of patent documents classified in the following areas of the IPC<sup>07</sup>

E21B

The following online and other databases have been used in the preparation of this search report

EPODOC, WPI







Your ref:

P102286GB02/ASG

Examiner:

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Dr Lyndon Ellis

Application No: Applicant:

GB0516430.6

Tel:
Date of report:

01633 814943 8 November 2005

Latest date for reply:

8 March 2006

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# Patents Act 1977

# **Examination Report under Section 18(3)**

#### Allowance of the divisional date

1. Your request that this application be treated as having been filed on 19 February 2003, which is the same date of filing as your earlier application number GB0422419.2, has been allowed.

## Novelty

2. The invention as defined in claims 1-9 is not new because it has already been disclosed in the following document:

GB 2410518 A

(Watson)

No amendment of your claims will be needed in respect of the above document if you can show that the priority date of your invention is not later than the priority date of the relevant disclosure in that document.

3. The document would seem to disclose all of the features claimed in your application, see, for example, claims 28-32.

#### Claim conflict

4. Your claims conflict with those claimed in GB 2410518 (and its parent GB 2400393) and the second set of claims 1-32 conflicts with those in your other two divisionals GB 0516429.8 and GB 0516431.4.

#### Consistency and clarity

- 5. The statements of invention on pages 2-5 and 17-26 need to be brought into agreement with the claims.
- 6. Claims 6-9 seem to describe the same invention as claims 1-4 and are therefore redundant.







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[Examination Report contd.]

#### Non-metric units

The equivalent metric values should be given alongside the non-metric values mentioned on page 17 of your specification.

#### **Publication**

Your application is being published concurrently. 8.